THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1998

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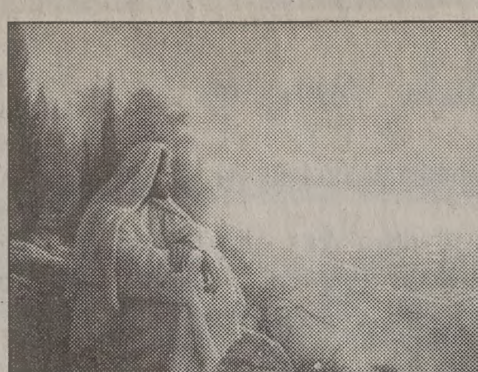

Artiste

Greg Olsen, a local artist, is gaining national recognition for his art.

Page 5

Eye-ball

BYU women's soccer team opens eyes with a successful season.

Page 7

Out with old

Prospective candidates for BYUSA meet for information and rules for qualifying.

Page 3

The Daily Universe

A division of: BYU NewsNet @newsnet.byu.edu

IGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY PROVO, UTAH VOL. 52 ISSUE 65

YU Exit Poll Correction

	Election Night %	Corrected Data %	Actual Data %
asen	49.9	65.5	67.7
erline	46.4	30.8	30.4
ok	46.7	49.5	52.8
elson	47.5	44.8	43.5

e : BYU exit poll — Mabel Lara/Daily Universe

sters discover error naccurate exit poll

RESSA GENETTI-SCOTT
essa@du2.byu.edu
wsnet Staff Writer

t's often the little things he biggest problems. For inistrators of the h College Exit Poll, one turned into a two-week

ypically seen as an accu- ast of election returns, fire election night from when the poll showed ficant discrepancies with esults in two of the three al races.

rt to decrease bias, the rs decided to switch the candidates in the 1st and essional Districts. Com- was supposed to account ing the names, but one d the program to over- nsposition.

hristensen, a BYU statis- or who helped to direct d he had some concerns day because the exit poll 1st Congressional Dis- expectedly tight.

showed incumbent Jim h 50 percent of the vote mocrat opponent Steve with 46 percent. Actual ved Hansen with 67 percent of the vote, a 17 point difference.

"One of the first questions we asked was if there was any kind of coding error. We wondered if we had changed names or something," Christensen said.

To determine where the error had occurred, the poll's administrators had to look at the actual results from each voting precinct used in the poll.

The tip-off came in a closer examination of the 1st Congressional District race poll and election results. The exit poll showed Hansen getting 70 percent of the race and Beierlein getting 30 percent. The other half of the questionnaires showed the exact opposite with Beierlein at 70 percent and Hansen at 30 percent.

"We saw that (exit poll) was showing a type of mirror image of what turned out in some of these races. That was the key that alerted the person who had been looking at it to re-look at the particular piece of code," Christensen said.

After the error was detected, the poll results were reanalyzed. The corrected results came within the poll's normal standard of 1 to 2 percent when compared to election results.

Christensen said numerous people had looked at the particular piece of

POLL ▶ page 2

Y students remembered

By JARED PRATT
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NewsNet Staff Writer

After a fatal accident left a father, sister, brother and friend dead the day before Thanksgiving, family members and friends paid tribute to their lives Wednesday afternoon during funeral services in Logan.

"Roadblocks are things you climb up on to get a better perspective of things," said Nathan Meeker, son of Ron Meeker and brother of April and Brian Meeker.

That summed up how the Meeker family is handling the deaths of their father, sister, brother and friend.

Ronald Meeker, 55; April Marie Meeker, 24, a senior at BYU; and Brian Meeker, 22, a sophomore at BYU; all from Logan, and Sarah Crook, 20, a junior from Flintstone, Ga., were killed in an automobile accident on Beck Street in Salt Lake City on Wednesday, Nov. 25.

Roommates, friends, family and several BYU students attended the Meekers' funeral Wednesday.

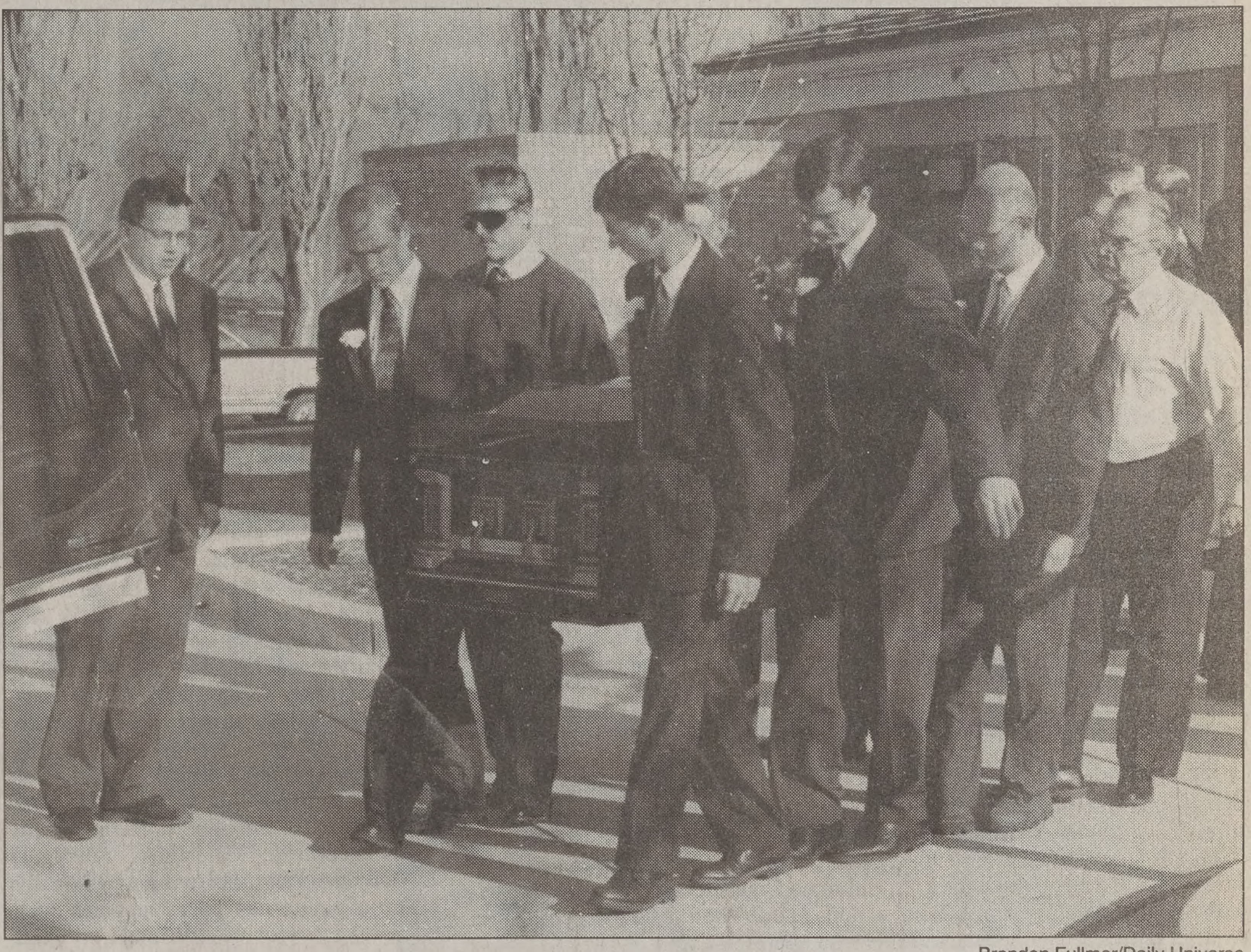
Joseph Farnsworth, 21, a sophomore from Las Vegas majoring in zoology, said Brian was very humble, fun to be with and didn't complain about doing work.

"He would be the one to always do the dishes," said Farnsworth, one of Brian's roommates.

Brian's roommates each said they will miss his fun and loving personality.

"I don't think they would want us to hang our heads. I think they would prefer us to get on with our lives and remember them," said Samuel Pierce, 21, a sophomore from Groton, Mass., majoring in history.

Karl Perry, the students' uncle, gave the life sketch of the members of the family and mentioned hard work, friendliness and commitment to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as characteristics of each of the Meekers.



Brandon Fullmer/Daily Universe

Roommates, friends and family of Brian Meeker, a BYU sophomore who was killed in an automobile accident over Thanksgiving break, act as pall bearers Wednesday after funeral services in Logan. The accident happened Wednesday, Nov. 25, on Beck Street in Salt Lake City.

Steve Francom, bishop of the BYU 194th ward which the Meeker's attended while at BYU, said Brian, April and Kristy Meeker, who survived the accident, were very close.

"They made a great impact in our ward in a short amount of time," Francom said.

Students could learn from this experience by understanding life is fragile and to do what they know is right, Francom said.

A diploma certifying April's graduation from BYU was given to her brothers by Alton Wade, vice president of Student Life.

"The loss of one, and particularly three, is felt by the university family," Wade said.

The university is doing what they can to help relieve the Meeker's burden and has made arrangements to help Kristy get back into school when she is ready, Wade said.

The father of the students was also fondly remembered.

"He was a wonderful mixture of hard work, determination and a bit of mischief playfulness," said his brother-in-law Perry.

Ron, Brian and April Meeker were buried in the Preston City Cemetery in Preston, Idaho.

YU ranks 2nd in valley's retail

businesses py with Y's tronghold

ARAH MONSON
h@du2.byu.edu
snet Staff Writer

people doubt the eco- t of BYU on the Utah n, a recent ranking reaf- the university plays a the local market.

isted as Provo's second r, second only to Sam's and surpassing area gro- artment stores, in a com- ased by the Provo City nt Agency.

ation was compiled from s tax reports provided by Utah. Redevelopment ector Ron Madsen said ales" on campus would y earned on sales of taxable bookstore supplies, dining and creamery services, and theatre, museum and sporting event tickets.

Administrators and officials at the bookstore and ticket offices said they were unable to release current information on BYU's revenues, but the most recent numbers indicate that BYU made approximately $36,404,000 in commercial operations in the 1995-1996 academic year.

Textbooks, which are not taxed because of BYU's private-school status, are not included in those figures. That means that all of BYU's remaining retail sales — from sports tickets to insignia sweatshirts to fast food in the CougarEat — bring in more money per year than local grocery stores.

For an institution whose primary goal is to provide education and not retail services, that's extremely good business, Provo/Orem Chamber of Commerce President Steve Densley said.

Madsen attributes BYU's strong commercial role in part to the high quality of the campus bookstore and other facilities.

Densley said, however, that BYU's market share in general, and the bookstore's wide range of services specifically, has sometimes been cause for complaint among other area retailers.

"The BYU bookstore was designed to become a convenience store, but as it's grown, it has everything from candy departments to cameras. It's fairly extensive and you've got a captive audience," he said.

The resentment over BYU's sizable market share was a much more volatile issue several years ago than it is now, Densely said.

"A lot of the retailers were saying we try to be as friendly as we can to the students, we bend over backwards to serve them and then the university turns around and captures all the consumers there on campus. They thought that was kind of unfair," he said.

Since that time, Densley said, the bookstore has made concerted efforts not to attract less of the off-campus community, including not advertising off-campus and keeping prices high so purchases are primarily made on a convenience basis.

BYU influences the local economy in other roles besides that of retailer.

In a November speech to the Provo/Orem Chamber of Commerce, President Merrill J. Bateman said that BYU's contributions to the community, both in salaries to employees and in expenditures, would total $200 million in the coming year.

The university employs 5.9 percent of Utah County's workforce, providing about 14,000 jobs, and attracting consumers. Almost a quarter of hotel-motel guests in Utah attend BYU events.

"BYU does contribute a lot to the community. Lots of kids go to shows and buy gas and groceries. I don't think anyone is criticizing BYU's role. But it did raise some eyebrows," Densely said.

Provo's Top Ten Retailers ...

1. Sam's Club
2. BYU
3. Food-4-Less
4. Smith's Food & Drug
5. Christenson Chevrolet
6. miscellaneous motor vehicle sales
7. Sears
8. Albertson's (Center St. location)
9. Albertson's (University Parkway)
10. Shopko

source: Provo City Economic Development

Low funds affecting students

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — A Utah education official has suggested Utah's low level of spending for education may be a reason why the 1998 statewide public-school testing program showed a drop in reading and language arts.

"This is cause for alarm. As a state, we should be doing better," said Barbara Lawrence, state director of testing assessment.

Utah's fifth-graders scored in the 44th percentile in language and in the 47th percentile in reading, down 2 and 3 percentage points, respectively, from 1997.

The 1998 scores are below the norm of 50 among students in 13 states who took the Stanford Achievement Test this fall, and were the lowest scores Utah students earned.

In discussing the scores with the state Board of Education on Tuesday, Lawrence suggested that Utah's low financial investment in schools may be to blame.

For years state leaders have bragged that Utah students perform above the national average despite the fact that Utah spends among the lowest per pupil in the country.

Currently, the state contributes $1,854 per student. Local school districts add more.

"We've lost that edge," Lawrence said. "These scores indicate that the system is not providing as much at the early grade levels as it needs to."

Officials say several things would improve the situation, including lowering class size significantly, increasing funding for books and research materials in classrooms and libraries, and providing money to train educators in the best reading methods.

There also needs to be a focus on training families about the importance of reading to their children long before they enter the public-school system, educators say.

py the silence?

Michael Brandy/ Daily Universe

han, lead singer of Depeche Mode, sings to fans inside Center Tuesday night. The band's stop in Salt Lake rt of its Singles Tour. Some have said this may be Mode's last tour. Performances in Utah have always to selling out, including Tuesday night's concert.

Clinton fund-raising memos add new element to inquiry

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House impeachment investigators armed with a court order reviewed secret memos on alleged fund-raising abuses in President Clinton's 1996 campaign Wednesday.

The president's lawyers demanded the sensitive materials to wage a "vigorous defense."

The investigators reviewed memos by prosecutor Charles LaBella and FBI Director Louis Freeh at the Justice Department, after U.S. District Judge Norma Holloway Johnson — acting on the department's motion — authorized the inspection.

Republicans, who won a victory by gaining the inspection, said the documents could potentially upset the House Judiciary Committee's tight impeachment schedule.

But the senior Democrat on the committee, Rep. John Conyers of Michigan, said that his counsel "thoroughly examined the memoranda" and "advised me that nothing in these documents is in any way relevant to ... consideration of possible impeachable offenses."

Committee Republicans had no immediate comment on the review.

The White House legal team accepted an invitation from the committee to make a defense before the inquiry Dec. 8, and possibly even call witnesses, but demanded access to the fund-raising memos and additional investigative material related to Monica Lewinsky and Kathleen Willey.

Willey, a former White House aide, contends Clinton made an unwanted sexual advance, and the committee is trying to determine whether anyone tried to intimidate her from testifying about the alleged incident. Clinton denies making the advance.

"We will of course accept your invitation to appear before the committee and to present a defense on behalf of the president," White House lawyers Gregory B. Craig and Charles F.C. Ruff wrote committee Chairman Henry Hyde, R-Ill.

"Once we have reviewed the material, we will be prepared to present a vigorous defense of the president," the letter said.

Paul McNulty, spokesman for committee Republicans, said the GOP was "certainly willing to notify the White House prior to its presentation next week of the issues it may wish to defend, although the president knows the truth better than anyone."

A Clinton administration official, speaking only on condition of anonymity, expressed doubt that the committee would provide all the material but said the defense would go on, regardless.

News Briefs

Compiled from staff and news service reports

2 plead innocent in Shepard killing

LARAMIE, Wyo. — Russell Arthur Henderson and Aaron James McKinney both pleaded innocent Wednesday in the murder of gay college student Matthew Shepard.

State District Judge Jeffrey A. Donnell said trial dates for both would be set Dec. 10.

Henderson and McKinney, both 21, are charged with first-degree murder, aggravated robbery and kidnapping with intent to inflict bodily injury or to terrorize the victim.

Shepard, beaten and robbed Oct. 7, was targeted because he was gay, according to testimony at an earlier court hearing. He was bound and tied to a rough-hewn wooden fencepost in the foothills outside of Laramie, which is about 40 miles west of Cheyenne. The 105-pound University of Wyoming freshman died five days later. Shepard would have been 22 on Tuesday.

The murder charge carries a possible death sentence, but prosecutor Cal Rerucha has not indicated whether he will seek the death penalty.

Teen who killed 2 gets 2 life terms

BETHEL, Alaska — A teen-ager was sentenced to 210 years in prison for killing a student and principal in a high school shooting rampage he had hoped would end in his own death.

Evan Ramsey, 18, received the maximum sentence Tuesday of 99 years for each killing, plus 12 years for attempted murder and assault. He was convicted in February.

In 1997, Ramsey walked through the halls of the Bethel Regional High School, firing a shotgun. He killed a basketball player who had teased him, and the principal.

Ramsey's lawyer argued at trial that the teen-ager was hoping to get police to shoot him in a "suicide by cop." Two notes Ramsey had written the night before indicated he planned to kill himself and others.

At the sentencing, Judge Mark Wood said that because of the slayings, "the entire fabric of the Bethel community was just ripped apart."

When asked if he had anything to say, Ramsey spoke in a voice so soft only his last few words could be heard: "I'm so sorry."

Drug may kick addiction to nicotine

WASHINGTON — Animal studies suggest a European epilepsy drug might one day help people quit smoking by blocking nicotine's effect in the brain, the Energy Department said Wednesday.

The department's scientists said last summer that similar animal studies suggested the same drug, known as GVG, might also help cocaine addicts kick their drug habit.

"Nicotine is the most frequently abused drug in the world, and every smoker who's tried knows how hard it is to quit," said lead scientist Stephen Dewey of Brookhaven National Laboratory. "We've shown in animals that the proper dose of GVG can stop nicotine's addictive effects entirely."

No one yet knows if GVG would have a similar effect on human smokers as it did on rats and baboons in Dewey's study, published in the journal Synapse.

Court ends Jones' lawsuit officially

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Paula Jones' sexual harassment lawsuit against President Clinton came to an official end Wednesday when an appeals court dismissed it, citing the $850,000 settlement the parties reached last month.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals put what is likely the final stamp on the lawsuit, through which the U.S. Supreme Court decided that a sitting president can stand trial for non-official actions and Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth W. Starr prepared an impeachment referral against Clinton.

In its order, the three-judge panel made no reference to the merits of Jones' appeal, which was argued Oct. 19.

Clinton last month agreed to pay Jones $850,000. Even though Jones had long wanted Clinton to acknowledge wrongdoing, the settlement said the agreement was not an acknowledgment of wrongdoing.

Weather

Yesterday

High 63 as of
Low 35 5 p.m.

Precipitation

Yesterday 0"
Month to date 0"
Yr. to date 22.07"

Today

Mostly cloudy

High 53
Low 36

Friday

Snowy

High 43
Low 24

sources: BYU Geography Dept., CNN

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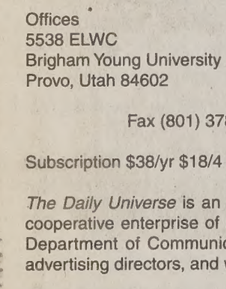
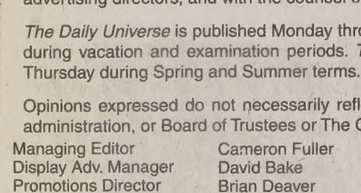
Scripture of the Day



"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

— 2 Timothy 4:7



Jennifer Parrish likes this scripture because "it reminds me to be faithful throughout all trials and tribulations. When all is said and done, I want to be able to say I remained faithful throughout my life." Parrish, 19, is a sophomore from Hopkinton, Mass., majoring in marketing communications.

Pollsters can affect opinions, some say

Professor says politics can be swayed

By MELINDA SEMADENI
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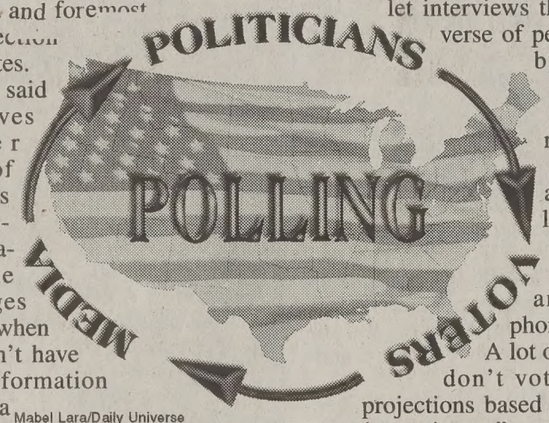
NewsNet Staff Writer

By crunching numbers and correlating those numbers with data, some say pollsters can play an integral role in shaping the public opinion they attempt to measure.

Pollsters are trained to ask questions, but recently some of their results are making some Americans distrustful of their research. In an era where public opinion can be measured with the touch of a button, with a click of the mouse or by phone, a growing number of the American electorate are becoming wary of public opinion and market research.

BYU political science professor, David Magleby, said polling affects voters first and foremost in the selection of candidates.



Mabel Lara/Daily Universe

Magleby said he believes another impact of polling is inappropriate application in the early stages of a race, when people don't have enough information to make a decision.

He said these polling results could discourage them from becoming involved in the election.

"Polling is also influential when an unknown candidate competes against a well-known candidate for the nomination," Magleby said.

Maury Giles, a political and public affairs research manager for Wirthlin Worldwide, an opinion research firm, said his company tracks public opinion by measuring how salient the issue is on three levels.

"The first level is general, how important is the issue to them overall, as a country," Giles said. "Second, how important it is to them personally on a day-to-day basis, and the third level is voter determinant or what issue has the most influence on how they vote."

The three levels vary and often don't all match, even for the same person, Giles said. Wirthlin tries to measure an individual's attitude and how their attitude affects their behavior and is driven by their anchoring values, he said.

"In the mind of the voter or general public, they don't differentiate between issue position and leadership imperatives; they are intertwined. Candidates must communicate leadership imperatives through their position of the most salient issues," Giles said.

"The American electorate feels the country and the economy are going in the right direction," Giles said. "So while they may personally dislike the president, they approve of the job he is doing in office, because they have seen his ability to communicate issues like welfare and education."

Magleby said most politicians are either delegates or trustees. Some choose to mirror their constituents on every issue, while others try to lead public opinion on certain issues.

The recent House Judiciary Committee's impeachment hearings is one example, according to Magleby, of some politicians following constituency's opinions and others acting upon their own conscience.

"If we were merely to follow existing public opinion, things like the civil rights revolution and extending the franchise to women, would never have happened," Magleby said. "It took politicians who were willing to risk offending whatever the current opinion was to try and transform, educate or change the public opinion."

Another problem, Magleby said, is the area of public opinion called selective perception.

"People at all levels, from ordinary citizens to politicians, have a tendency to want to read into these things what they want to see," Magleby said.

Magleby said one illustration of selective perception is in the results of the midterm elections. November's elections left Republicans mystified that voters were not incensed with the president and Democrats seeing the results as an exoneration of the president's actions.

"Both sides have to worry about the tendency to read too much into it from their point of view, when the reality is that it was neither," Magleby said.

Polling affects the media when they don't understand how to interpret the information connected with the polls, Magleby said. He said he believes such methods can disrupt elections and benefit people with high-name identification or lots of money.

"Another problem is when polling is done on the cheap and the media outlet interviews the wrong universe of people," Magleby said. "So instead of interviewing registered or even more appropriately likely voters, they interview anybody who answers the phone or the door. A lot of those people don't vote so they do projections based upon an inappropriate universe."

Giles said there are differences between media polling and industry polling.

"The media love to jump on and sponsor polls — it gives them good talking points — but because of their constraints they don't always follow stringent sampling and scientific methodology," Giles said. "The industry lives and dies by their numbers."

Howard Christensen, professor of statistics at BYU, said consumers should look for several things when evaluating a poll.

"First, voters need to identify the polling organization and decide if it is irresponsible," Christensen said. "Voters can also look at what kinds of questions were asked and how they were asked, as well as looking at the size of the sample to see if it is representative of the population."

Voters can check who sponsored the poll and what kind of return they were expecting from it, Christensen said. He encourages the public to be skeptical about polls. While there are not stringent government regulations on the polling industry, the American Association of Public Opinion of Research and its members subscribe to a basic code of ethics.

According to AAPOR's Web site (http://www.aapor.org/ethics/), research professionals from more than 1,400 research firms adhere to the code. AAPOR's code delineates acceptable ethical practices as they relate to the public, clients and respondents.

The code also sets the standard for minimal disclosure on public opinion or market research.

POLL *from page 1*

coding and had not picked up on the problem.

"In effect, it was a very simple kind of thing that really did us in," he said.

Brant Avondet, 22, a sophomore from Idaho Falls, Idaho, majoring in economics and finance, has worked as a research assistant und Science Department C Magleby.

Avondet helped in the d poll's questionnaires, as analysis of the data.

"We consistently try ne the exit poll to make it be tried a couple of those t very end and were too time," he said.

Y walker hit by car Tues

By STEPHEN SMITH
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NewsNet Staff Writer

A BYU student was struck by a car Wednesday night as he was crossing a street, south of the BYU campus.

Michael Martinez, 18, a freshman from Wilbraham, Mass., was hit by a southbound vehicle on 200 East between the 800 North and 700 North intersections at approximately 7 p.m., said Provo Police Sgt. Gary Hodson.

Martinez neglected to use a crosswalk and crossed the street in the middle of the block, Hodson said.

Martinez was transported to the Utah Valley Regional Medical Center immediately following the accident and listed in stable condition, according to the UVRMC emergency center.

Aaron Bennet, 18, a Pro the driver of the vehicle, injuries.

Although no citations w the scene of the accident, because Martinez crossed dle of the block, Bennet w bly not be held responsible

"Pedestrians ought to us walks and not cross in th the block. That's the bo said Hodson.

Erin Yamashita, 19, a from Newark, Calif., wi accident. "I heard a louc turned and saw him (Mart hood, flip over and land or Yamashita said.

Mark Martinez, 21, Mich er, a sophomore majoring said Michael is doing fine.

BYU Department of Theatre and Media Arts • College of Fine Arts and Communications

Joyful Noise

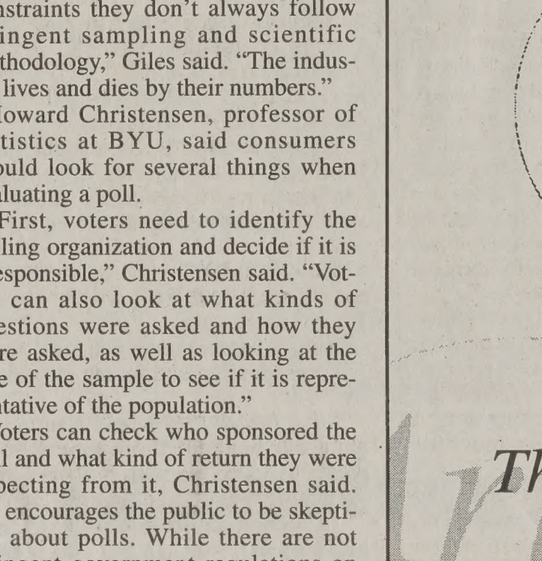
By Tim Slover
Directed by Bob Nelson
A composer and a singer, poised between despair and triumph. This is the story of the birth of Handel's Messiah.
Previews • November 18–19
November 20–December 5
7:30 p.m.
Pardoe Theatre • Harris Fine Arts Center
$10 ($2 off with BYU or student ID) Previews • Half Price
Fine Arts Ticket Office • 378-4322

Museum of Art at Brigham Young University

Art Belief Meaning

The Visual Arts and the Restored Gospel

Students and faculty will present selected papers on is relating to the production, application, and appreciation o visual arts in a Latter-day Saint environment. All sessions be held in the museum of Art Auditorium on level Admission is free.



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Hogi Yogi (2 Loc.) - 44 E. 1230 N., Provo • 520 N. 900 E., Provo
Missionary Emporium - University Mall, Orem

In the south seas near the island Java, US sailors finally received their lo desired Pipeline Pizza. After eating 18 Colossus Pizzas, Admiral Boxx's u took first place in the Pacific Ocean Pizza Contest.

16" 1 ITEM PIZZA + 2 DRINKS $8.25
14" 2 ITEM PIZZA + 1 DRINK $8.25
12" PEPPERONI PIZZA + 1 DRINK $5.99
EXP. 12/5 EXP. 12/5

The Pizza Pipelin
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Free Delivery
S-Th 11 a.m. - 1 a.m.
F, Sa 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.

Campus Editor: Tonia Andrus
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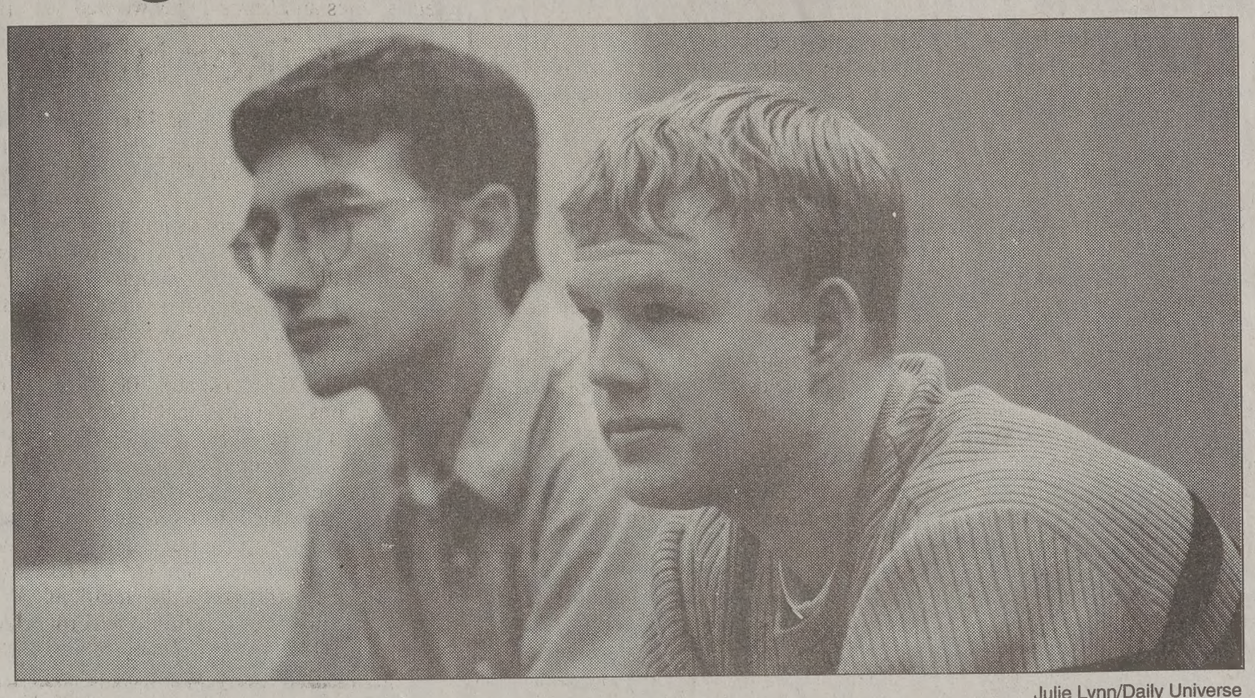
USA begins election planning

STIE ROBINS
@du2.byu.edu
et Staff Writer



Julie Lynn/Daily Universe

Jeff Tolley, left, a junior majoring in international law and diplomacy; and Chris Bird, a junior majoring in pre-med; listen as BYUSA representatives explain the BYUSA election process at a meeting on Wednesday. Although preparations have begun, elections will not take place until February.

wo student leaders e student body are ident and executive Active campaigning ns does not start until BYUSA Coordinator election planning has

ian Bowers, BYUSA ucted an information- hursday for students nning. Five students

e informational meet- for students not very BYUSA, and he was turnout.

ople are here than I be here; it's good to Usually people plan- g don't want to show eetings like this," Kau

terested in running for dent or executive vice st have at least two BYUSA leadership d follow certain cam- ns.

e experience is needed short amount of time

tense time. They only r to get things done,"

rson, 25, a senior from , majoring in Spanish, t to Kau, said students for office should have n of what they're get- said they must be dedi- cated and willing to do the job right.

"The BYUSA president represents BYUSA, the university, the student body, its mission, values and goals," Nielson said.

As for the campaign regulations, Bowers said they are used to level the playing field.

"Pre-campaign rules help keep the elections fair. You're given a certain amount of money to run your campaign and you can't go outside of that or take any donations," Bowers said.

BYUSA Executive Vice President Karen Duffin said the campaign rules are necessary to maintain a good spirit at BYU.

"When you're involved in something you care so much about, it's easy to lose your focus. There's no logic in going out to bash the opponent because that's not attractive," Duffin said.

The vice presidents of the five branches of BYUSA are not elected by the student body and no previous experience with BYUSA is required. They are interviewed and appointed by BYUSA's president and executive vice president.

BYUSA's Student Advisory Council Secretary Dayna Baglow said this is an effective process.

"There's always going to be a lot of people vying for a vice president position, but that's good because then you always get the best," said Baglow, 19, a sophomore from Westlake Village, Calif., majoring in classic civilizations and recreation management.

dents apathetic toward BYUSA

RISTIE ROBINS
ie@du2.byu.edu
Net Staff Writer

is involved in several ampus life, yet many s seem apathetic about

Baglow, secretary of dent Advisory Council, plays a vital role in the nity.

nk between the adminis- e student body. BYUSA not all, of the activities, d community service for hool," said Baglow, 19, a rom Westlake Village, majoring in classic civ- nd recreation manage-

, many students seem BYUSA or uninterested service association. n't know what BYUSA are for or what they are sn't make any difference the BYUSA president don't vote," said Greg senior from Heber City, unty, majoring in chem-

dent Pamela Becraft said ery little about BYUSA is putting her time and aduating.

not really interested. I uld be, but I'm not," said a senior from Mapleton, music education.

l BYU students' general rest in BYUSA may be nging student body. admission standards con- rease, BYU's admitting spend more time study- id.

nnigan, 21, a sophomore g, Maryland, majoring in ience, said he's aware of , activities and safety programs BYUSA puts 't taken part.

"I'm just too busy to get involved," Finnigan said.

Janet Scharman, dean of Student Life, said BYUSA does not function as a student government, but represents the student body as a whole while considering an aspect unique to BYU: BYU is a church-owned school.

"When decisions are made by President Hinckley or the Board of Trustees, our position is not to challenge that," Scharman said.

BYU student Cynthia Taylor said she believes BYUSA doesn't have enough power to make a difference.

"This is not a negative thing at all, but because BYU is a church-run school, people with real power aren't elected to positions. The administration and trustees are the ones who make decisions that have an effect," said Taylor, 21, a senior from Orem, majoring in English.

At-a-Glance

Women's Services and Resources is sponsoring a two-part workshop on depression and dealing with holiday blues. Today at 11 a.m., in 3234 ELWC, the first workshop will be presented by two marriage and family graduate students, Kelly Walker and Sheila Mitchell. For more information contact Women's Services and Resources at 378-4877.

Thursday a symposium concerning the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument will take place on BYU campus in W112 ETBB from 4 to 8 p.m. Representatives from the Bureau of Land Management, Kane County, and the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance will speak on alternatives for management of the monument, its effect on surrounding communities and its ecological and recreational benefits.

Nominations for the Ben E. Lewis, administrative staff, the Fred A. Schwendiman, staff award, and the President's Appreciation Awards are due to the Administrative Advisory Council by Friday. Contact Bobeta Powell at bobeta_powell@byu.edu or 378-7023.

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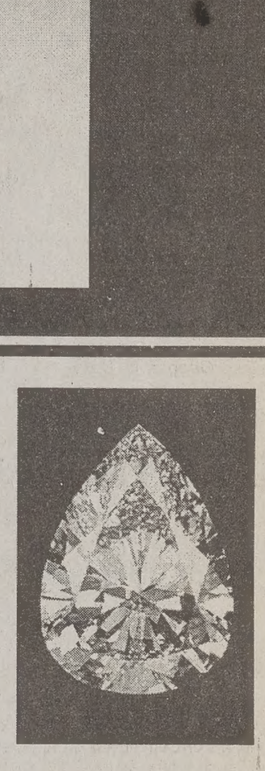

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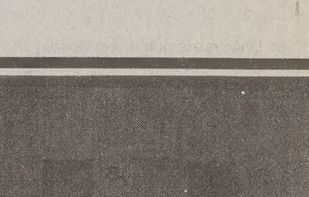
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The Daily Universe
OPINION

Brady Act has good side

Despite its opponents' claims, the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act helps keep firearms out of the hands of criminals and others ineligible to use guns.

The new national system of background checks for firearm buyers, which started on Monday, is the last phase of the 1993 Brady Act, which, previous to Monday, only required background checks for buyers of handguns.

The so-called Brady law, which requires background checks on all firearms buyers, has been criticized on many counts: The National Rifle Association holds that the checks invade privacy and that the act increases federalism; Jim and Sarah Brady, the originators of the act, feel the instant checks will increase impulse shootings and suicides; and state law enforcement officers and store owners dread the extra paperwork and hassle created by the law.

But though its opponents have some valid points, the benefits of the Brady law outweigh its negative side-effects.

The privacy concerns of the NRA arise because gun retailers with federal licenses to sell firearms can call the FBI or a state point of contact to access the National Instant Criminal Background System and find out whether an unlicensed customer is qualified to buy a firearm. However, when the gun retailer gives the information on the customer's Brady form to the FBI or state agency to do the NICS check, the only responses he will receive are "proceed," "denied," or "delayed." No information about the customer is ever released except upon written request of the customer himself, so there is no real ground for invasion of privacy complaints.

Those who complain about the background checks are also upset about the $7.50 charge for the NICS service. Customers complain about paying the extra money, and store owners complain the charge frightens their customers away. The money, however, goes to pay for the computerization of criminal information in the NICS database, thus preventing criminals from buying guns.

Zach Fossum, a gun salesman at Parks Sportsman, said he thinks gun sales will drop because of the charge. He said all his customers since Monday have been more upset about the charge for the background check than the check itself. December generally sees the most gun sales nationwide, and it is doubtful that sales will drop as a result of the law since consumers still need guns, although they may complain about buying them.

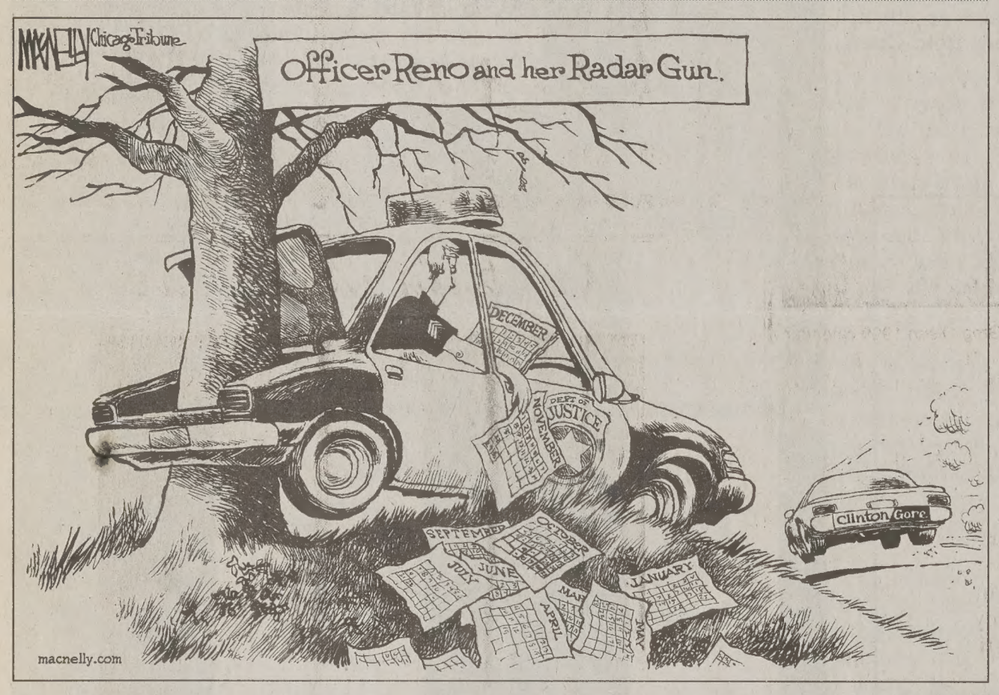
Another small hassle created by the check is the extra paper work state chief law enforcement officers have to handle as a result of the Brady forms filled out each time a firearm transaction is made; this seems a small price to pay for added gun safety and more secure communities. The Brady law is keeping guns out of the hands of convicted felons and the mentally ill, so it is doing its part in keeping people safe.

On the flip-side of gun safety, Jim and Sarah Brady, who were the original proponents of the Brady law, are against the instant background checks and purchasing of firearms now possible. They say a "cooling off" or waiting period is necessary to prevent impulse shootings and suicides. According to President Clinton, statistics show an 8 percent drop in aggravated assault involving a firearm since the Brady law came into effect; it remains to be seen what effect the absence of a waiting period in most cases will have on this statistic.

Both Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., and Rep. Connie Morella, R-Md., say they will support legislation that requires a three-day waiting period, according to the AP. When Congress meets in January, it will be more evident whether a waiting period is necessary.

Of course there is always the argument criminals will still be able to get guns through illegal channels, but any decrease in gun sales to those with criminal intent is an improvement.

This editorial is the opinion of The Daily Universe Editorial Board. Daily Universe opinions are not necessarily opinions of BYU, its administrators or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Viewpoint

Meat not so neat, veggies are better

By Rogan Ferguson
Special to the Universe

God prefers vegetarianism to meat eating. It is as simple as that, and it is stated no clearer than in the Doctrine and Covenants section 89, the Word of Wisdom.

Don't get me wrong. Neither I nor God "Forbidith to abstain from meats," (D&C 49:18), nor do we place animal life on par with human life. Indeed, the scripture most often quoted by meat eaters, D&C 89:12, assures that your life and mine rank higher than Fido's. It reads, "Yeah, flesh also of beasts and of the fowls of the air, I, the Lord, have ordained for the use of man with thanksgiving; nevertheless they are to be used sparingly".

Of course everyone has their own definition of "sparingly," as evidenced by the fact that Utah has one of the highest red meat consumption levels per capita in the United States. But even this warning does not express God's desire as well as the next verse, D&C 89:13, which states with no equivocation, "And it is *pleasing unto me that they should not be used*, only in times of winter, or of cold, or famine." (italics added for emphasis).

However, don't think that just because the weather is getting nippy we should throw another hog on the fire!

In 1833, the year Joseph Smith received the Word of Wisdom, winter was a time when the vegetables from the harvest would not last the entire season without being supplemented with meat. His inclusion of famine with winter and cold emphasizes that God is talking about times when crops are not plentiful, rather than when the weather takes a turn for the worse.

In the present, grocery stores provide a plentiful supply of vegetables all year, thus eliminating the need experienced in 1833 to eat meat during the winter. To paraphrase, God says that while animals have been ordained for the use of man, it is pleasing unto God that they NOT be eaten, except under extremely dire circumstances.

Will eating Big Macs keep a person from attaining Celestial glory? Probably not. Is it pleasing unto God to abstain from eating Big Macs? Most certainly.

We live in a time when we have the privilege NOT to eat meat. This probably won't always be the case — if a major famine wipes out crops in America, I will be one of the first to hunt animals to sustain my family. Until that day I will enjoy the privilege of vegetarianism.

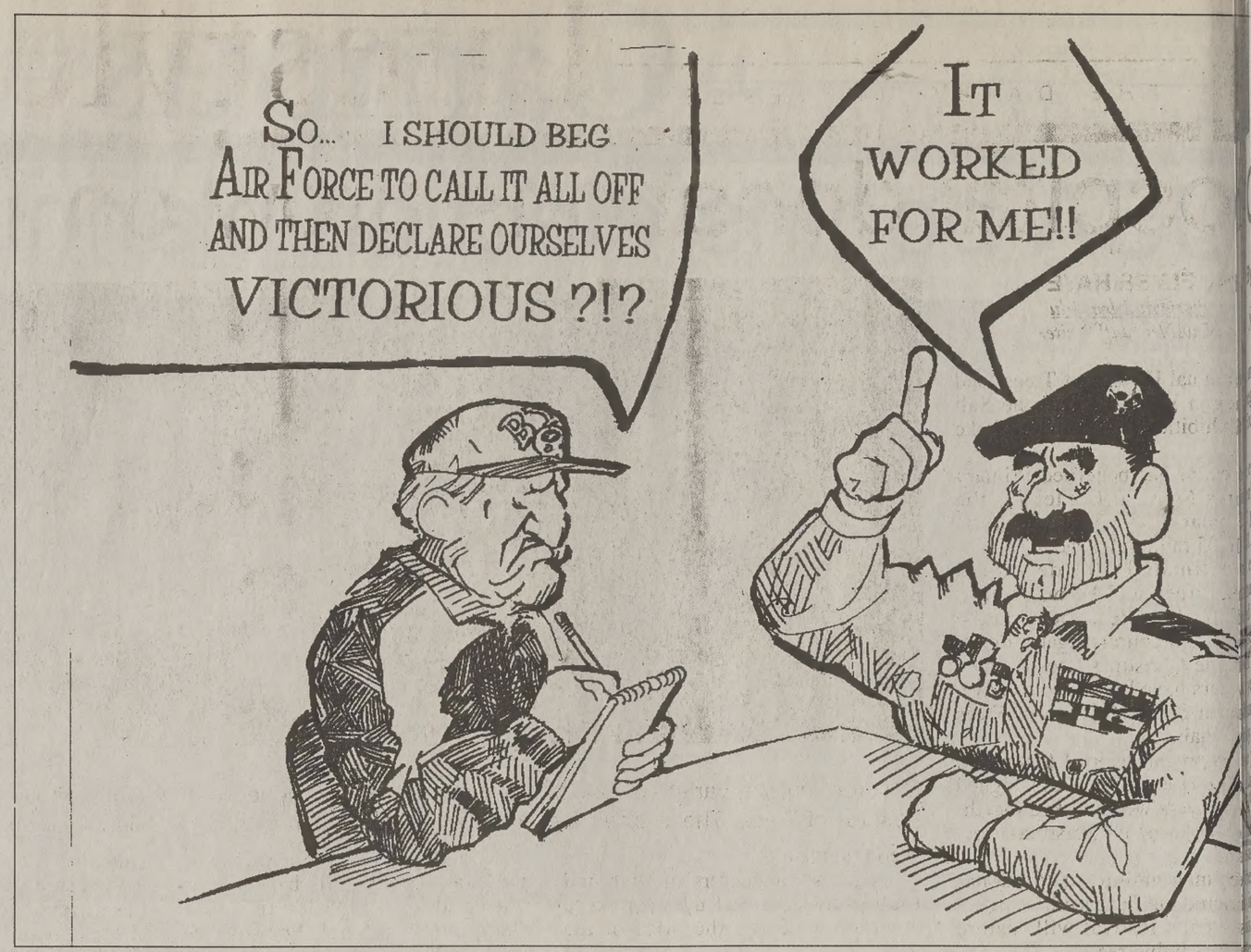
Of course there are many other reasons for being a vegetarian. Vegetarianism promotes health, as herbivore humans live between five and ten years longer than omnivore humans. Vegetarianism protects the environment (cutting trees to create grazing land is one of the main causes of rainforest depletion). Vegetarianism fights starvation (it takes 16 pounds of grain fit for human consumption to create one pound of beef ... imagine sending all of that food to third world countries instead of blowing it on a night at Carver's).

Vegetarianism helps family finance (it is no mystery that vegetables are by far less expensive than meat). Vegetarianism promotes nonviolence, and a deep respect for life (the unnecessary slaughter of animals equates to unnecessary violence).

While all of these points could easily be expanded into separate articles, they are all secondary issues. Ultimately we should choose vegetarianism because we want to do that which is pleasing unto God.

The holidays are nearly upon us. What a wonderful time to make a new resolution, or to recommit ourselves to an ideal that makes God smile. This December, when we sit down for the holiday feast, let's choose life — let's choose vegetarianism and let the spirit of the season be a time of thanksgiving for all of God's creatures.

Rogan Ferguson is a senior from Great Falls, Mont., majoring in art



Readers' Forum

Letters may be submitted at BYU NewsNet offices, 5538 ELWC, sent by e-mail (letters@du2.byu.edu) or faxed to 378-

Thanks for the story

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank The Daily Universe for publishing the article about Signature Card fraud. I was an unwitting victim of such a crime during my freshman year.

In 1995, I unknowingly left my card on a tray in the Cannon Center, sending it into the dishroom. I later thought I had lost my card, and naively had another one made, assuming that it was gone forever. I was wrong. It turns out that an employee of the dishroom took the card and used it to check out P.E. clothing.

At the end of the school year, I found that I had a $50 charge on my account for unreturned clothing. An employee I spoke with at the SASB said that they could not help me, and directed me to the supervisor of the RB locker room. I found no help there, either, as she insisted that none of her employees would check out clothing to someone who didn't match the picture on the card.

I went back to the SASB and pleaded my case once more, pointing out the fact that I rented a P.E. locker and therefore had clothing of my own. No one believed me, although they eventually reduced my fine to $35, probably thinking that I was simply a poor freshman strapped for cash.

I hope that all students take this story into consideration next time they use their card. They could be the next victim of thievery, fraud, and the system in general.

Lauren Huyck
Valencia, Calif.

Weaver vindicated

Dear Editor:

Kudos to Spanish Fork teacher Wendy Weaver for sticking up for her rights and to District Judge Bruce Jenkins for ruling fairly in Weaver's case. I realize that those opposing Weaver's employment in the Nebo School district represented several religions, but I am especially disappointed in members of the LDS Church who profess Christlike love toward all people on Sundays but were very anxious to dismiss a lesbian woman from her employment because she has a different lifestyle.

Maybe we have forgotten that as a Church we were once slaughtered and driven from state to state because of our "strange" sexual practices, namely polygamy. If Christ were here, I wonder if He would be more interested in getting rid of Wendy Weaver or in showing compassion and love to her and her partner.

Edward L. Jones III
Monroe, Sevier County

Thanks for decorating

Dear Editor:

Thank you BYU, for trying so hard to decorate for the Christmas season! I LOVE Christmas, and everytime I see the lights and tinsel, or hear a carol, I start to glow/dance/caper and forget for a joyous moment that finals are ahead and there is still much to be done.

It also brings to life the knowledge that soon I will be safely with my family — giggling, singing and prancing like little elves, until the elder elves send us to bed. I am especially grateful for the Santa figures, since Santa is my favorite jolly rotund person (after my Dad, of course), and it makes me happy and peaceful just to look at him — or representations of him.

I know that numerous individuals, who could never receive all the praise they deserve, spend valuable time and resources to deck the campus with holiday magic. Your work does not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Andrea Nicole Rasmussen
Minot, N.D.

Too much marriage talk

Dear Editor:

I have had the privilege of attending BYU for a year and a half now, and it's a great place. But I have noticed a trend among bishops at this institution. Most of them seem to be marriage-happy. For instance, in my ward the "menu" or ward phone book is filled with quotes about marriage, pictures of brides and rings and things like this.

My friend from high school went in for an interview with her bishop and he asked her how many dates she had been on that month, and asked her to increase her dating activity by flirting more (I am not making this up, I swear). I do not think these are isolated cases. And I feel that this is a lot of extra work for our diligent bishops, so I have a suggestion to help ease the load.

Why don't we just start putting personal ads on the back of our Sunday Bulletin? Think how much easier that would make things. A guy wants to ask a girl out — now he doesn't have to waste time wondering which girl is his type, he can just quickly look on the back of his program. And girls wondering which guy to bake cookies for .... See how the dating process can be simplified?

SWF 19 5'8" Brown Hair Hazel Eyes.

Seeking a Date with one of those Security Guards at the Library. (They are all so handsome)

Jamie Jo Phillips

Fan shows disrespect

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to Tuesday's letter to the editor written by Casey Willard. It is my understanding that some BYU students are claiming that Casey is biased, being from Arizona, and is trying to justify the elbow thrown at Jepsen.

Arizona may be Casey's team; however, his point about the irreverent BYU fan is a valid one. As members of the LDS church one of Articles of Faith states we believe that all men have the right to worship when, where and how they please. The action of the disrespectful fan displays hypocrisy and this is the only issue.

I believe if Casey was asked what is more important to him, the Church or the Arizona basketball team, he would side with the Church. The apology from the player that threw the elbow may not take away Jepsen's pain, but it does show he recognizes his mistake. I believe that the inconsiderate fan now owes the entire Arizona basketball team an apology for his lack of reverence.

Next time think before you throw, as you represent all BYU students and the Church. Thank you Casey for bringing to our attention who we represent.

Adam K. Heindorff
Brisbane, Australia

Fan was right

Dear Editor:

In response to Tuesday's letter about a BYU fan who threw a basketball at the Arizona team while they were praying titled "Bad Sportsmanship" I would just like to applaud that one fan. I am glad that this fan threw that little cougar basketball at the Arizona team while they were "giving thanks to God" after their win. They were probably thanking God for giving Edgerson the idea to take out Bret Jepsen and thus securing their win rather than praying for Jepsen's health.

I agree the fan could have picked a better time to throw the ball, but I had a really good laugh when I read the letter condemning this fan. I think it was hilarious what the fan did!

That fan stood up for the BYU team by throwing that ball. The bad sportsmanship came from Edgerson when he seriously hurt Jepsen. That is what cannot be tolerated. Thanks again to the basketball-throwing fan for standing up for Jepsen.

Jacob Davies
San Diego

Volleyball team

Dear Editor:

A quick note of appreciation t volleyball team. It played one o sports games I have ever wat afternoon. It represented the uni and never gave up despite ques ating, bad breaks and a good Ha

Every player made clutch pl time, it was awesome to see. how just how good they really no doubt about the success the the upcoming NCAA tournamen and support the team in its first the tournament that will be right

The effort they've put in as a our respect and support. Let's games Friday and Saturday and support. Thanks for a great gam and good luck this weekend. Go

Brett Hinton
Gilbert, Ariz.

Mix up the offe

Dear Editor:

As a BYU graduate and life fan, I nearly threw my remot screen watching the BYU vs. U the fourth quarter of the Utah g so conservative and predictable could get away with stacking ni line of scrimmage and forcing t in a row in crunch time. It was o inept coaching displays I've ever

Anyone who has ever sat in th dium stands knows that Norm least popular guy in Provo. If hired as the head man, he would Reid look like a PR genius. The predictable that everyone in knows exactly what play the Co long before the ball is snapped. tion that Norm constantly rolls o ed QB to his right, runs sweep side of the field and hands off on

He should look at the offe Vikings, Broncos and 49ers. The run and the pass so well, and t DEEP! You can get pass interfer the defender may fall down, and tion is as good as a punt. Plus it running game.

BYU threw deep exactly one Utah and it was a touchdown to We just need better situational p that we're not so predictable and

Luckily the Utes gave us the ga our coaches tried to give it to going to have to be a lot smarte Force and Tulane.

Mark Greenwood
Arlington, Va.

Both teams cho

Dear Editor:

I found the Nov. 23 headlin Choke, BYU Wins" somewhat i it is true Utah's kicker Kaneshir game-winning field goal, it is a recall the circumstances that pla in a game-winning position.

The Cougars choked their way last three minutes of the game. should have read, "Both BY Choke, BYU Wins."

Matthew McKinlay
Salt Lake

Readers' Forum Guidelines

BYU NewsNet invites students, professors and BYU staff to ters to the editor. Anonymous letters will not be printed. All lett be typed, double-spaced, and are not to exceed 300 words.

Name, home town and phone number must accompany all le letters are subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters must mitted in person at BYU NewsNet offices, 5538 ELWC, sent mail (letters@du2.byu.edu) or faxed to 378-2959. Darren Wilc ion editor, can be reached at 378-2957.

Lifestyle Editor: Michelle Johnson
phone: 378-7095
e-mail: michelle@du2.byu.edu

ospital donations grow on trees

By ELYSE HAYES
elyse@du2.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

annual Festival of Trees fund egan Wednesday at the Salt xhibition Center in Salt Lake

event has benefited Primary n's Medical Center for the years. Last year's festival 1.05 million for the hospital. estimated 500 decorated as trees will be on display, 1 by families, individuals, es and church organizations. f the Christmas trees donated ears have been very creative, ron Smith, Festival of Trees chair.

year, the festival featured a azz" tree. Basketballs signed players were stacked togeth- e form of a Christmas tree, id.

imagination (of the dona- ncredible," she said.

year's festival will feature anie Baby trees.

eral of these are very popular w," Smith said.

of the highlights this year is onated as part of an Eagle oject, Smith said.

tree has a golf theme and a flag autographed by Tiger Woods at the top.

Photo courtesy of Festival of Trees

Children enjoy a variety of Christmas trees at the Festival of Trees. These trees are designed to be auctioned at the event, which will raise money for Utah's Primary Children's Medical Center.

A group of doctors in Utah and Idaho have teamed up to make a donation to match the price of the tree.

Smith said that because the tree will be auctioned, the price could be as high as $10,000.

Smith said the festival features a variety of trees, from 2 to 10 feet tall, ranging from about $35 to as much as $50,000.

In addition to trees and decorations, the festival sells baked goods and handcrafted quilts and gifts. There is also a Small Fry shop for children that features treats and gifts with a child's budget in mind, Smith said. Children can also visit with Santa or have their faces painted at the Kids Korner.

The festival is for "anybody who enjoys Christmas, anybody who enjoys giving, anybody who enjoys children," Smith said.

Because all proceeds go to benefit the hospital, even those who can't afford to purchase a tree or other merchandise can help by simply purchasing a ticket to the event, Smith said.

The Festival of Trees runs through Saturday at the Salt Palace Exhibition Center, 100 S. West Temple in Salt Lake City. The festival is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is $3.50 for adults and $1.50 for children.

ocal artist enjoys national success

ARISSA SCHOENFELD
d BRIAN THOMPSON
marissa@du2.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writers

st Greg Olsen, sitting in the of a spacious, light-filled stu- ms right at home amidst the s, easels, containers of color tly stacked paint brushes that l him. And he seems equally with the level of success he ieved doing something he

n, the creator of popular reli- paintings such as "O em," "The Good Shepherd" acred Grove," has accom- he difficult task of combining on with his profession.

h his works hanging in reli- stitutions around the world laces as diverse as the Penta- National Collegiate Athletic tion headquarters, the U.S. ervice building and the Turn- dcasting System building, as built an international repu- r exceptional art.

way, Olsen has achieved the n dream.

works at home doing some- l loves and is enjoying large- ccess.

he sense that I'm doing what I o and being able to feed my doing it, I think I'm where I be," Olsen said.

ng to this point in his career n more of a natural process uphill struggle thanks to Olsen's simple formula for success: work hard and paint what's important to you.

Olsen said the two main themes that inspire him the most are his religious faith and his family. He goes back and forth between these subjects, gathering ideas from his six children for light-hearted, nostalgic themes, and "natural inspiration" from LDS Church doctrine for religious themes.

BYU visual arts professor Bob Barrett said it's these two themes that give Olsen's paintings an authenticity people respond to.

"One of the reasons (his art) appeals is that he deals with themes that touch people," Barrett said. "Whether it's two little kids having a tea party, they may be his own daughters, ... but there's a universality of meaning in his work. He's one of those rare geniuses that can take personal things and give them universal meaning."

Art retailers agree.

Mark Richards, who has been selling Olsen's work for nearly three years at Frameworks Gallery in Orem, said Olsen's prints are consistently his top sellers.

"I think one of the reasons why they're popular would be that they really speak to people on a personal level," Richards said. "His pictures of Christ portray the Savior in a way that make him to be a real person that's approachable, that people can really feel comfortable being with."

For Olsen, painting Christ is his most intimidating undertaking.

Photo courtesy of the Art of Greg Olsen 1999 calendar

LDS artist Greg Olsen is enjoying success with his talents as a painter. "O Jerusalem," which features Jesus Christ overlooking the city of Jerusalem, is one of his pieces.

"I compare it to trying to paint a bowl of oranges when you only have blue paint," he said. "But what I try to do is make a visual reminder, a symbol of the Savior so people will think of him as a real, tangible person who lived and breathed."

Despite his great success as an artist, Olsen retains the humble attitude of just hoping people enjoy his paintings as much as he enjoys painting them.

"One of the great things about having this as a profession is that this is something I would do in my free time if I was doing something else, just because I enjoy it," he said.

Olsen's studio is filled with works-in-progress, and art lovers can expect to see more masterpieces in the future.

Disney films make nation's top 5

Associated Press

Bug's Life," Disney
The Rugrats Movie," Para-

nemy of the State," Disney
he Waterboy," Disney
abe: Pig in the City," Univer-

n Exhibitor Relations Co.)
EVISION
0 Minutes," CBS
YPD Blue," ABC
NFL Monday Night Football: t New England," ABC
ouched by an Angel," CBS

5. "The CBS Sunday Movie: Cab to Canada," CBS

(From Nielsen Media Research)

SINGLES

1. "I'm Your Angel," R. Kelly & Celine Dion. Jive.
2. "Nobody's Supposed to Be Here," Deborah Cox. Arista. (Gold)
3. "Lately," Divine. Pendulum. (Platinum)
4. "Doo Wop (That Thing)," Lauryn Hill. Ruffhouse.
5. "From This Moment On," Shania Twain. Mercury (Nashville).

(From Billboard magazine)

ALBUMS

1. "Double Live," Garth Brooks. Capitol (Nashville).
2. "Tical 2000: Judgement Day," Method Man. Def Jam.
3. "Spirit," Jewel. Atlantic. (Platinum)
4. "(NU) 1's," Mariah Carey. Columbia.
5. "These Are Special Times," Celine Dion. 550 Music.

(From Billboard magazine)

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Juliana Boerio-Goates
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Patti Collings
Department of Statistics
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What are the rewards of a career in science for women?
What can women scientists expect from the future?
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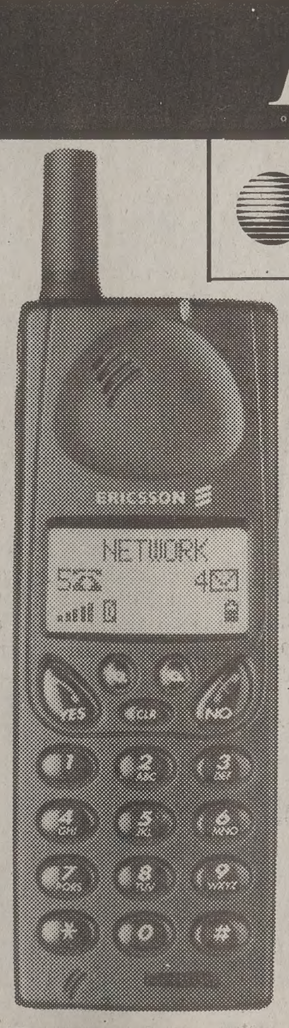

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Y golfer shooting for stars

By GREG GIAUQUE
greg@du2.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

For Billy Harvey, a sophomore on the BYU men's golf team, golf has become much more than just a weekend getaway or a hobbie. It's turning into a way of life.

BYU golf coach Bruce Brockbank said he knew early on that Harvey would be something special. He has had his eye on Billy Harvey since the day Harvey hit the junior golf circuit.

"I've been watching Billy since he was 14 years old. I recruited him from day one, but I didn't have any idea he was this committed," Brockbank said. "He works his tail off in practice. He's very focused (and) ambitious. He's at it everyday."

And his work has begun to pay off. Harvey was named WAC player of the month for October in what is possibly the toughest golf conference in the nation.

People think this isn't that big of a deal, but if people knew how tough the WAC is they would see this is really something. Out of 18 teams, eight were in the top 25 last year. That really tells you something," Brockbank said.

In four tournaments so far this fall, Harvey has a second- and a sixth-place finish to his credit and is averaging 72 strokes per round in competition.

At the Husky Invitational in Bremerton, Wash., Harvey shot a 72-70-72 — 214 and finished five strokes out of the lead, good enough for the sixth place. Harvey later tied with teammates Andy Miller and Jesse Hibler for second at the Fresno Lexus Golf Classic in Fresno, Calif., by carding a 73-69-72 — 214.

Jane Harvey, Billy's mom, is a little biased but shared some insights into her son's success.

He has a drive for excellence. He's always tried to be the best. That's why he has such a great work ethic," Jane Harvey said. "He started hitting golf balls at age 4. He would hit balls until there were blisters on his hands."

Billy Harvey grew up loving golf in particular, but his athletically competitive nature came out in other ways as well.

At age 8, Harvey made 25-of-25 shots to win the national basketball spot shot championship.

As a 9-year-old, he won the state wrestling championship for his weight class.

At 14, he started playing with the American Junior Golf Association, and at 17 he won his first major tournament.

Last season, as a freshman, Harvey shot a 74 average and only missed one tournament. But he said he's not satisfied.

"They say that's OK for a freshman, but I expect more of myself," Harvey said. "This year I have higher expectations just because of what has happened. Right now, definitely my goal is to win a tournament. The last few, I've had a good chance. I know I'm capable."

To reach that goal, Harvey said he knows the parts of his game he needs to improve and has invested many hours doing just that.

"I spend time in my room putting. (One time) it was like two hours. The time goes by fast," Harvey said. "I pretty much work on my tempo and rhythm. If you have the right tempo, that makes up for the little things you do wrong."

Harvey's aspirations go beyond collegiate golf, but he admits that he prefers to just think about the here and now.

"After BYU, I'm definitely going to try to be a pro golfer. If I keep improving, I think I could, but I never really look at the future for some reason," Harvey said.

Harvey is, however, looking ahead to a solid spring season that could put the Cougars in the hunt for a national championship. Harvey and his teammates will continue training through the break and resume tournament play in February at the John H. Burns Invitational in Honolulu.

Men's volleyball warms up in Hawaii

By ADAM MANGUM
mangum@du2.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

While most BYU students were taking it easy and filling themselves with turkey, the BYU men's volleyball team spent its Thanksgiving weekend in Hawaii feasting on four exhibition wins over the University of Hawaii.

The Cougars traveled with the Rainbows and played four matches on a number of different islands in front of large crowds.

BYU was invited by Hawaii to make the trip, and Hawaii even paid some of the BYU expenses.

The experience was a good one for the team, said assistant coach Hugh McCutcheon. He also said it was a good simulation of game-like situations.

McCutcheon said the Rainbows were mired by injuries, but the most important thing to him was the improvement made by his team.

"Even though their team wasn't at full strength, we got better each game," he said.

The first two matches were very competitive, with BYU winning in five and four games respectively, including a victory by BYU's second team over most of Hawaii's first team in the second match. BYU took the other two matches in three straight games.

McCutcheon said that sophomores, Mac Wilson and Scott Bunker, played well and were pleasant surprises.

BYU All-American Ryan Millar said the trip was great practice for the Cougars, who are ranked as high as No. 5 in some preseason polls. He said Hawaii provided great competition in preparing for the regular season which starts next month.

"We had good quality reps against a good quality team," he said. "Everybody played really solid, not just the starting six. It really said a lot about our depth."

Millar said the team has high expectations for the upcoming season and lists a national championship as a very attainable goal.

The Cougars will try to build on their successful tradition, which includes finishing last season ranked No. 7 in the nation.

Millar is entering his final season and has aspirations to pursue a professional career after this year.

"This year will be very special, because it's my last year," he said.

Even with these high personal goals, Millar said his personal success will take a back seat to helping BYU get to the next level. He said the team's goal is encompassed in one word: winning.

Because of NCAA rules involving practice time during the offseason, McCutcheon said the Hawaii trip will be the team's last tune-up before the season.

Until a couple weeks before the season begins, the coaching staff will only be able to work with four players at a time instead of the entire team.

Regardless, McCutcheon said the Cougars are prepared to make a run at national prominence once the season begins.

Jury clears Webber of serious charges

Associated Press

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. — Sacramento Kings forward Chris Webber was cleared of the most serious charges against him Wednesday but will have to pay $560 in fines for a traffic stop that could have led to a jail sentence.

A Prince George's County circuit court jury acquitted Webber of possession of marijuana, driving under the influence of the drug, resisting arrest and second-degree assault.

However, the nine-woman, three-man panel found the NBA star guilty of two traffic violations and a misdemeanor charge.

"I'm very relieved," Webber said outside the courthouse. "When you face charges of any type it's definitely tense. I'm so elated right now it really hasn't hit me. I can't even show my emotions."

Judge Hovey Johnson fined Webber $30 for failure to display a driver's license on demand and $30 for failure to display a car registration on demand. Although the Maryland criminal code suggests a range of $270 to $330 in fines as appropriate for willful disobedience of a police officer's lawful request, Johnson assessed a $500 fine on that charge.

"Everyone understands that when you are stopped by the police you're not to argue about whether you're right or wrong," said Jack Johnson, whose State's Attorney office prosecuted the case. Johnson said the fines help send that message.

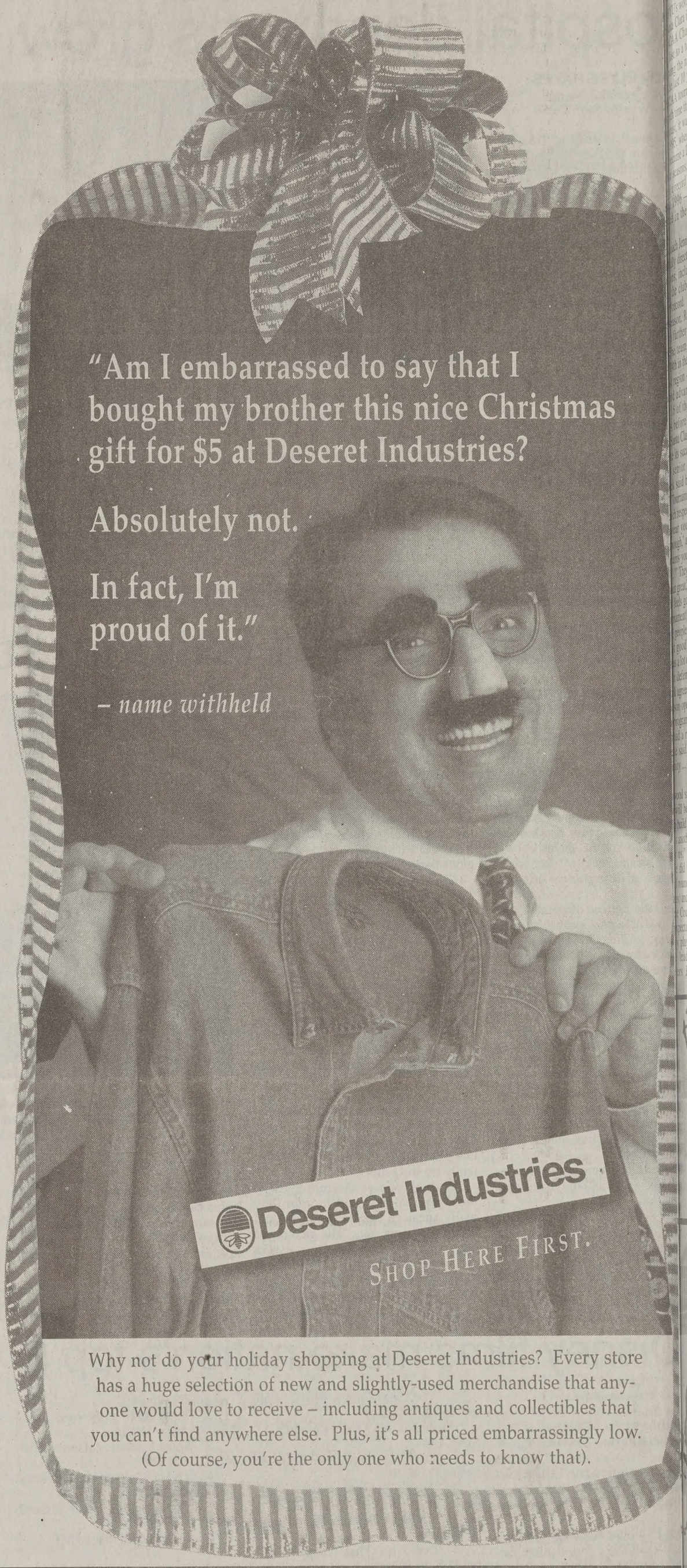
"I just told the judge that I apologize for any inconveniences. I never want to be in a courtroom again," Webber said.

In closing arguments, prosecutor Shaem Spencer told jurors that Webber, who formerly played for the Washington Wizards, did not respect a police officer's request during the incident.

"It escalated because this defendant would not obey, would not get out" of the car, he said.

The arrest was one of several off-court matters that prompted the Wizards to trade Webber to the Kings in May. He was accused of sexual assault in April, but that charge was later dropped. He also paid a $500 fine paid in August after marijuana was found in his carry-on bag at an airport in Puerto Rico. That incident costed Webber his endorsement contract with Fila. Officials at the company contend he violated the athletic-wear manufacturer's conduct clause.

"It is going to effect the way that I act from here on out," Webber said, noting he intends to be more cautious.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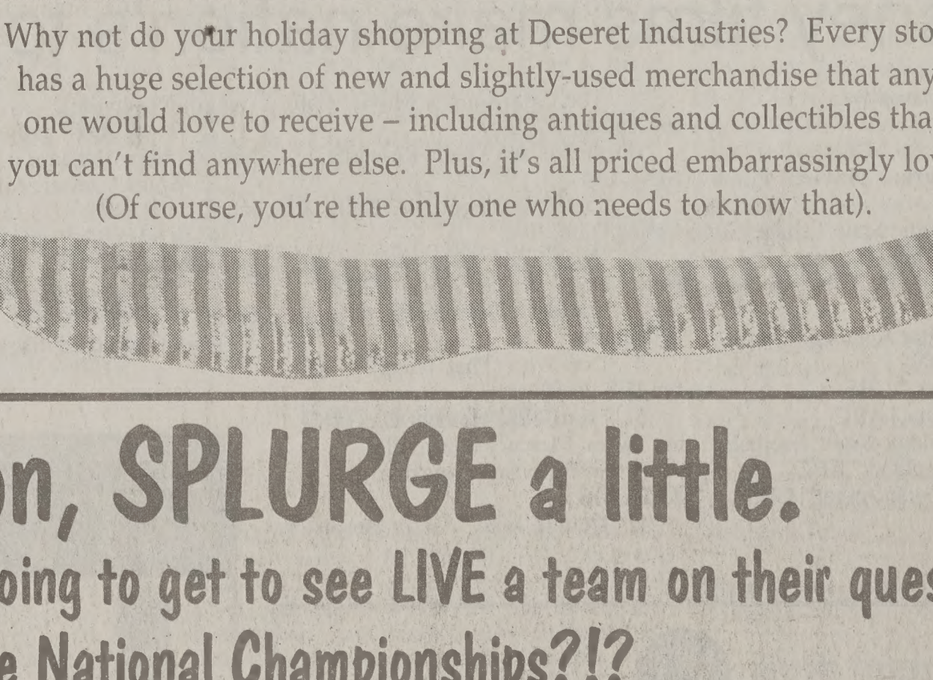

...occer team building tradition

...LIZABETH PALMER
...izabeth@du2.byu.edu
...ewsNet Sports Writer

Darren Wilcox/Daily Universe

BYU's Sara Reading evades a San Diego State player in the WAC Tournament final at South Field on Nov. 7. In three years at Division I, the women's soccer team is 72-18-1 and No. 4 in the nation.

...BYU's women's soccer team ...nta Clara in the third round ...CAA Championships last ...lost to a team that has fin... ...ong the nation's top 10 in ...ne last 10 years and made it ...CAA tournament semifinals ...kth time this season.

...rast, it was only three years ...995, when women's soccer ...ecame a Division I sport. In ...r seasons, the Cougars have ... a record of 72-18-1 — 61- ... 1996 — and have twice ...d in the NCAA champi...

...oach Jennifer Rockwood has ...lly directed the Cougars for ...ns, including six years of ...the club soccer team to a ... record.

...ason, Rockwood took the ... further than they've ever ...he team ended the season ...th in the nation — fourth in ... region — with a record of ...d advanced as far as the ...6 of the NCAA Champi... before losing to second- ...anta Clara.

... its success as a young pro... senior forward Shauna ... said before this season's ...ournament, BYU had yet to ...h respect.

...ear you hear, 'BYU's not ...ough,' and all summer from ...ms you hear 'Oh, you play ...?' They don't expect you to ... great," she said.

...eels good to be up there (in ...ament) and to keep advanc... people say, 'Oh, maybe they ... good'... I think winning ... a lot of respect."

...defender Laurel Simpson ... agreed the Cougars' success ...on opened some eyes about ...rogram.

...d a really successful sea... said. "We had really good ...ty ... everyone expected to ...

...ood said the success of this ...ill be something for future ...build on.

... another standard of expecta... us," she said. "Now, with ... did this year, we'll expect ...round (of the NCAA Cham...) and beyond."

... Cougars will have to meet ...pectations without some of ... players. Departing seniors ...leading scorer Rohbock, ...rs Roderick and Emily Lubeck, and goalie Catherine Wright.

Despite those losses, Rockwood has high hopes for next season.

"We'll have the majority of the team back next year," she said. "We'll need to replace Shauna's goals, and we'll lose two very good defenders ... but we have an outstanding group of freshman coming in.

"If we put everything together, we can become a lot better than we were this year."

Becoming better than this year will not be easy. Highlights from this season are plentiful.

There was a sudden-death overtime road victory against then 9th-ranked Stanford, Rohbock's four-goal performance against the University of Colorado, and a thrilling, heart-breaking four-overtime loss to San Diego State in the WAC championship game.

The Cougars then began the NCAA Championships with a sound 6-1 beating of Stanford in Provo, followed by an impressive second-round 2-0 victory over UCLA in Los Angeles.

Rockwood said her team put a lot of effort into having as successful a season as it did.

"The girls worked very hard to accomplish what they did this year," she said. "They deserved to get where they were ... they've earned it."

But aside from simply racking up victories, Rockwood said her team excelled where it matters most.

"We had a lot of fun, and that's what it's all about," she said.

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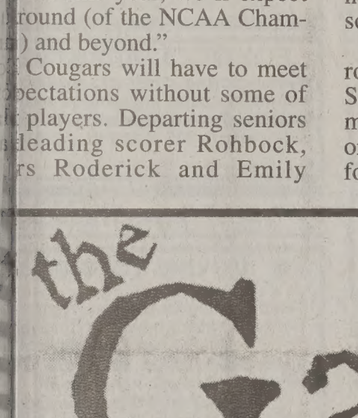

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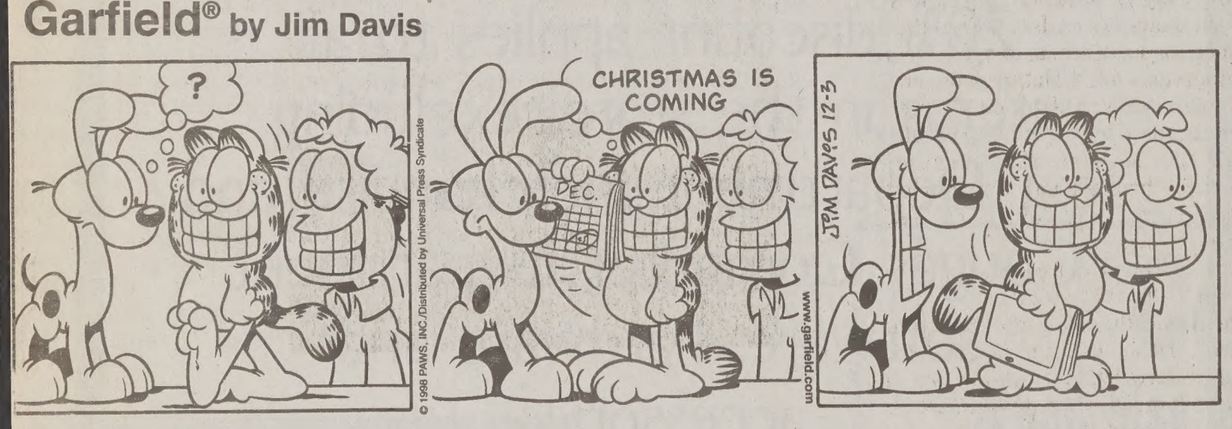

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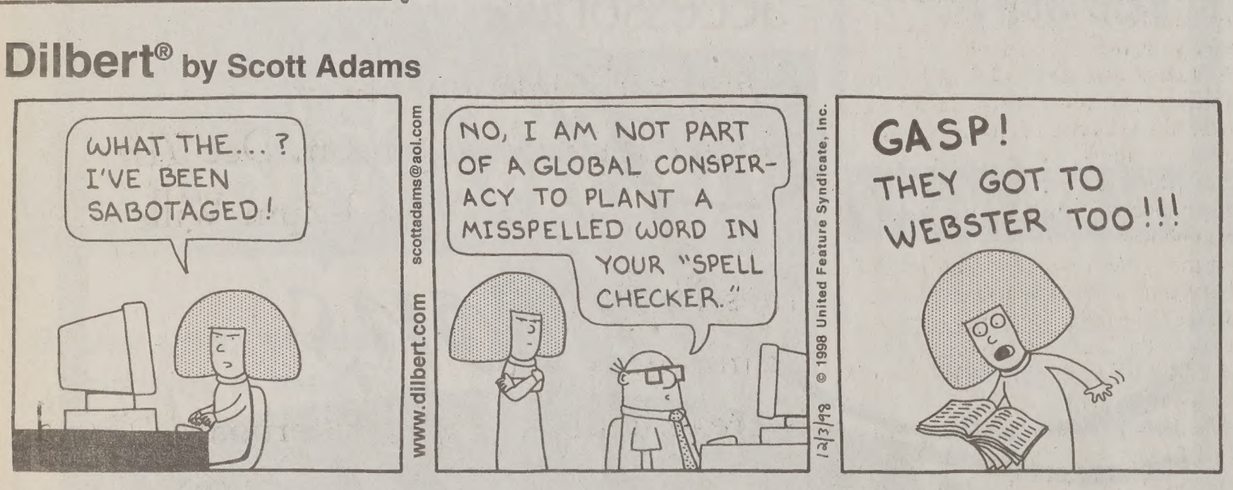
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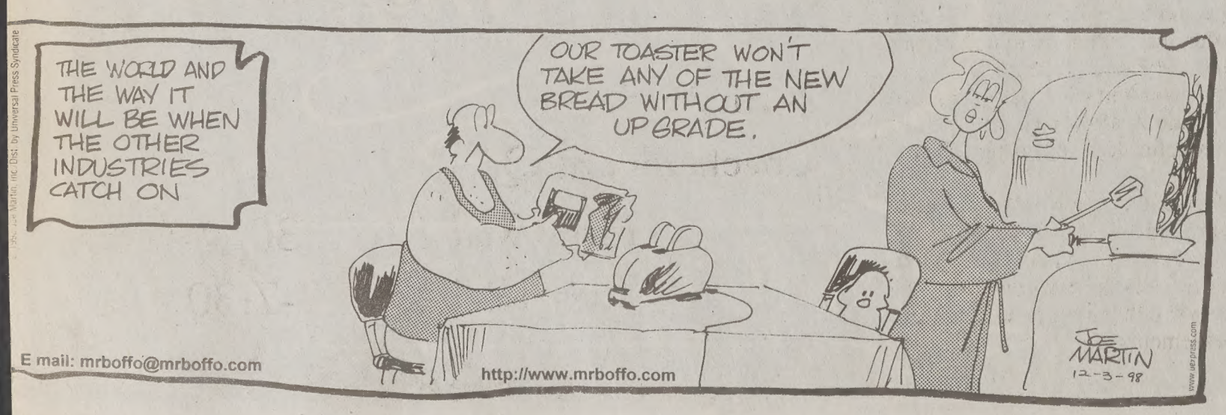
Mister Boffo by Joe Martin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Santa receives aid from local builders

By KATIE EWER
katie@du2.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

The Utah Valley Home Builders Association is getting into the Christmas spirit by donating supplies and labor to families who need home repairs.

The association will be doing safety and comfort repairs on 15 homes from Lehi to Salem this Friday and Saturday, said Deann Huish, executive officer of the Home Builders Association.

"We want to help people who can't do repairs themselves because of financial or physical difficulties," Huish said.

Like most rural communities, Utah Valley has not escaped the glaring realities of poverty. Approximately 38,825 people in Utah County live in a state of poverty, an estimated 13 percent of the population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau Web site at www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/saipe93/estimate/a89_49.htm.

Huish said the Home Builders Association is comprised of committees of general contractors, suppliers, mortgage companies and banks. She said Trades Contractors, the general contractors committee, developed the idea of "Sub-Contractors for Santa" to help the community.

Huish said the Trades Contractors Committee of the Home Builders Association was looking for a Christmas project. The committee thought "Sub-Contractors for Santa" would address a need in the community and allow the contractors to share their talents and time helping those in need.

Projects for repairs include fixing windows, caulking, and repairing roofs, plumbing and heating, Huish said.

Huish said the project started out small and grew quickly.

"After the ideas were presented, the project just blossomed," Huish said. "We started out with just a few houses and now we're doing 15."

Huish said the group is helping everyone it can.

"We just wanted to help everybody, at least a little bit," she said.

Steve Caldwell, chairman of the Trades Contractors Committee, said the committee presented the idea to the other committees and everyone wanted to get involved.

"All the supplies needed for the projects were donated by people involved with Home Builders," Caldwell said.

Caldwell said approximately 150 builders and contractors are now involved with the projects.

"We have separate tear-out crews, plumbing crews and different crews for every part of each repair project," he said.

Caldwell said the suppliers committee ordered all the materials, and Huish said banks donated money.

Huish said the committees contacted area clergy to get referrals of families in need of their services. She said they figured religious leaders would be aware of who was in need in their areas.

"We wanted to spread this project all over the county. We contacted a bishop in Salem and a couple of churches in Lindon," she said.

Both Caldwell and Huish said "Sub-Contractors for Santa" is a wonderful project to be involved in.

"It's amazing what we've been able to find and what we've been able to do," Caldwell said. "We're trying to do things that will make a difference."

Huish said it was very touching to visit the homes and see the situations in which some people live.

"It definitely makes this project more meaningful to see the conditions first hand," she said.

Commission offers tips for safe holiday season

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hospital emergency rooms treat about 7,500 people each year for injuries related to holiday decorations, and consumer safety officials suggest a few common-sense tips to avoid becoming a statistic.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission offered these suggestions:

•Look for the "Fire Resistant" label on artificial trees. When purchasing live trees, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, and its needles do not break easily.

•Set up trees away from fireplaces and radiators, and make sure they do not block doorways.

Keep the stands of live trees filled with water, because heated rooms dry out trees rapidly.

•Only use decorative lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory.

Check lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires or loose connections. Discard damaged sets.

•Don't use more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord.

•Never use electric lights on a metallic tree.

•Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house walls or other supports to prevent wind damage.

vo man critically injured in collision

By SHANNA GHAZNAVI
shanna@du2.byu.edu
City Editor

ar-old Provo man is in critical condition after his a semi-tractor.

ision occurred on Freedom Boulevard Wednesng, according to the Provo Police Department. Gus Roundy sustained head and chest injuries pickup truck collided with the semi-tractor, to Provo Police.

He was ejected from his vehicle and is now at the Utah Valley Regional Medical Center.

Roundy was not wearing a seatbelt, said Sgt. Gary Hodson of the Provo Police.

Roundy was travelling east on 500 South and failed to stop at a stop sign, according to Provo Police.

He collided with the semi-tractor in the intersection of 500 South and Freedom Boulevard.

The driver of the semi-tractor substained no injuries, and neither vehicle involved contained passengers other than the drivers.

Java haunts Microsoft in trial

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Bill Gates once wrote in an e-mail that the threat the programming language Java posed to his Microsoft Corp. "scares the hell out of me."

And with that, the company set out to dilute the impact of the versatile Java, claims the latest government witness to testify against Microsoft in its antitrust trial.

Microsoft made illegal changes in Java because it threatened the company's Windows-only vision, said James Gosling, vice president of Java's developer, Sun Microsystems Inc.

Java is a key element in the Justice Department's case against Microsoft. Sun originally created Java as a "cross-platform" language that offered software developers the capability to write a program once and have it run on any number of computer operating systems — not just the dominant Windows, but on Apple Macintosh and Unix systems.

Microsoft responded to the threat by creating a version of Java that was written for Windows and incompatible with other systems, Gosling wrote in testimony submitted to the court and released Tuesday. Gosling began his cross-examination Wednesday.

Before his questioning, however, the government played an excerpt from a videotaped deposition Gates, Microsoft's chairman, gave last summer for the trial.

Gates acknowledged that Java posed a threat to Microsoft — not in its July 1997 form when its popularity began to burgeon, but in its future potential.

"If we looked at how it might be evolved in the future, we did think of it as something that competed with us for the attention of ... (software developers) in terms of whether or not they would take advantage of the advanced features of Windows," Gates said.

In his written testimony, Gosling accused Microsoft of trying to "flood the market with its Microsoft-dependent" programs, prompting more software developers to write several versions of Java.

"This is precisely what the Java technology was designed to avoid, and it demonstrates that Microsoft's actions threaten to fragment the Java technology," which would damage the cross-platform benefit, Gosling said.

In a statement released in response to Gosling's testimony, Microsoft denied it developed a Windows-based version of Java as a competitive reaction. It also said Java has failed to live up to its potential.

Microsoft pointed out that several companies, including Netscape Communications and Oracle Corp., tried to distribute Sun's version of Java but failed. Microsoft said it had nothing to do with the failures — "they were entirely built upon Sun's technology."

The government contends that Microsoft used its influence in the software industry to crush its competition. It alleges the company illegally "tied" its Windows and browser, which allows viewing of the Internet, into one package to eliminate the market for competing browsers.

Gosling backed up the government's claim.

"There is no convincing technical justification for making a Web browser an inextricable part of an operating system," he said.

Israeli stoning may delay peace talks

Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — The Israeli government announced Wednesday it was suspending further troop withdrawals until the Palestinians comply with a list of demands including a promise to publicly abandon plans to declare a state in May.

The government said its decision was prompted in part by an attack on an Israeli soldier and civilian by an angry Palestinian mob in the city of Ramallah in the West Bank earlier Wednesday.

The decision came only 10 days before President Clinton was to arrive in the region to usher in stage two of the Wye River land-for-security agreement he had helped negotiate in October.

There has been renewed acrimony between Israeli and Palestinian leaders, with both sides accusing each other of violating the accord.

The Israeli announcement raised questions about whether the Clinton trip could take place while Israel was holding up the agreement. An Israeli official said that as of Wednesday, the Clinton visit was still on.

Two dozen Palestinians ambushed an Israeli soldier in a car driven by a man wearing a skullcap Wednesday, smashing its windshield then dragging the soldier out and beating him with stones in a brutal assault that was captured by news cameras.

Attackers shouted "Yahudi! Yahudi!" — the Arabic word for Jew.

The soldier cowered by the car door, holding his hands up to fend off blows as several Palestinians struck his head with rocks. After a minute of relentless attack, the soldier ran away, bleeding from the head.

His assailants stole his M-16 assault rifle, threw more stones at him, then doused the car with kerosene and set it on fire.

In Jerusalem, a 41-year-old Palestinian street cleaner, Osama Musa Natche, was stabbed to death Wednesday in what police believe was an attack by an Israeli extremist blamed for six other stabbings.

Hundreds joined Natche's funeral procession along Salah Eddin Street, the main thoroughfare of traditionally Arab east Jerusalem. Dozens of marchers broke away and hurled stones at Israeli riot police who fired rubber bullets.

Eleven Palestinians were lightly injured by the rubber bullets.

The stone-throwing attack began when 150 students from Bir Zeit University were bused to Ramallah to protest Israel's refusal to release a large number of Palestinian prisoners jailed for anti-Israeli activities.

A student organizer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the attack had not been planned. He said student leaders would try to find those who had seized the soldier's weapon and turn them over to Palestinian police.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's adviser, David Bar-Illan, held the Palestinian Authority responsible for the incident, saying it had incited the students to violence over the prisoners' issue.

"The bottom line is that there will be no further withdrawals unless the Palestinian Authority lives up to all its commitments," Bar-Illan said.

A statement from Netanyahu's office said the Palestinians must abandon their intention to unilaterally declare a Palestinian state.

The statement also called for the Palestinian Authority to stop violent and inciteful acts and to punish rioters.

Palestinian negotiator Hassan Asfour said Israel was to blame for the violence, saying Netanyahu raised tensions by not releasing prisoners and continuing to expand Jewish settlements.

Entrance fees rise; visitors don't care

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Increased fees to national parks and other federal recreation areas under a five-year experimental program have almost doubled revenues without discouraging visits, a government study concludes.

"I'm pleased with their findings," said Sen. Craig Thomas, R-Wyo., chairman of the Senate Energy subcommittee on parks, historic preservation and recreation. He said the fees have increased revenue without affecting visits to the parks.

The General Accounting Office, the investigative wing of Congress, said the National Park Service and three other agencies participating in the demonstration program were able to increase their recreational fee revenues from $93 million in fiscal year 1996 to about $179 million in fiscal 1998.

National Park Service spokeswoman Elaine Sevy said the program, initiated by Congress in 1996, brought in an additional $145 million last year, helping to reduce a maintenance and repair backlog estimated in 1996 at $6 billion.

"We'd like to see it made permanent. It's very important to us," she said.

> ***"Visitors don't have a problem with it (paying higher entrance fees) as long as the money stays in the park to fix it up."***
>
> *— Elaine Sevy, National Park Service spokeswoman*

The GAO report said the extra fees did not appear to have kept potential visitors away, although further studies might be needed to assess the impact on people with low incomes.

Visits to sites with higher fees increased by five percent in 1997, compared to a 4 percent rise at non-demonstration sites.

Of 206 demonstration sites, visitors increased at 120, declined at 84 and remained unchanged at two, the GAO said.

Entrance fees are as high as $20 at such popular parks as Yosemite, but the report said most visitors still feel that's a bargain, particularly if the money goes to protecting the land.

"Visitors don't have a problem with it as long as the money stays in the park to fix it up," Sevy said.

The program involves the Park Service, which generated much of the new revenue, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service.

It was originally given a three-year lifetime, but the project was extended this year for an additional two years.

rossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1022

Puzzle by Chuck Deodene

ROSS

- el
- y-one
- y ——
- norrow, e.g.
- re on
- 's "—— of ers"
- servings
- with final l
- Texas e
- c City
- nance!"
- size
- ng
- 35 With 45-Across, a 1976 Eagles hit
- 38 Noggins
- 39 Footnote note
- 40 Do schoolwork?
- 42 What Band-Aids aid
- 43 Golden Horde member
- 45 See 35-Across
- 47 City south of Salem
- 48 Printing flourish
- 49 "Princess ——" (1884 premiere)
- 51 Some Fertile Crescent residents
- 55 Opposer of Cortés
- 59 Bug killer, briefly
- 61 Make mischief
- 62 Madonna's first top 10 song
- 65 Harassed
- 66 Washerful
- 67 Old hull caulking
- 68 Actress Swenson
- 69 "Frasier" honor
- 70 Systems of waist removal?
- 71 Shrinking

DOWN

- 1 Line of cliffs
- 2 Lecterns
- 3 "Moving right —— . . ."
- 4 Milieu of the stressed-out
- 5 Playboy Mansion name
- 6 Peeve
- 7 Speaker of note
- 8 Billing cycle, often
- 9 Fraction of a joule
- 10 Command to Fido
- 11 Auto engineer Benz
- 12 Foil's heavier cousin
- 13 Erode
- 19 Pre-op inhalant, once
- 21 Hindu outfit
- 25 Not entirely happy
- 27 It takes a bow
- 29 Zoo barriers
- 31 Trade area of expanding importance
- 32 Coin word
- 33 South American monkey
- 34 Down —— (Maine)
- 35 Marathoner's stat
- 36 "—— Ben Adhem"
- 37 Kind of snake or crab
- 41 Roasted item
- 44 In the cooler
- 46 Turkish money
- 50 Runner-up to Ike
- 52 Make amends
- 53 Elbow
- 54 Command to Fido
- 55 Proficient
- 56 Really move
- 57 Alpine transport
- 58 Countercurrent
- 60 High ground in Dutch lowlands
- 63 Fishing aid
- 64 German river

R TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

P	S		V	I	N	E		S	P	O T
R	E		I	B	E	G		O	S	L O
O	R	K	C	I	T	Y		F	I	L E
	V	I	E	S		P	A	T	O	I S
M	I	T	S		S	T	R	I	F	E
A	L	E		W	A	I	T	E	R	
R	E		H	A	L	A	S		E	C O
S		S	A	X	O	N		C	L	A P
	L	O	R	E	N		F	L	I	R T
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T		O	D	E	S		E	E	R	I E
S		T	O	R	E		S	L	I	T S

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute).

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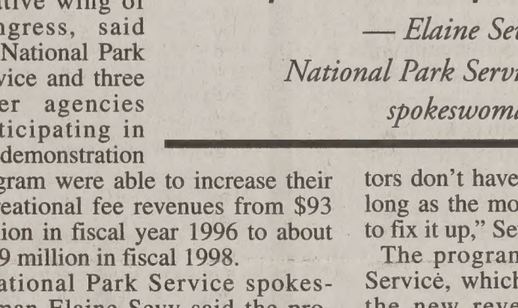
Sun. Dec 6 after Devotional



Come and Make a plate of cookies for friends
Mon. Dec 7th 10-2pm Wilk

Tues Night
Luminaries, Music, Refreshments
Checkerboard Quad 7:00

Nativity Scene
Checkerboard Quad
Mon/Wed 12-12:30, 6-6:30
Tues 12-12:30, 7-7:30

BYUSA

Boeing grounds employees

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Boeing Co. stock plunged Wednesday, dragging the Dow Jones industrials lower, after the world's top aerospace company announced cuts of an additional 20,000 jobs and plans to scale back jetliner production.

The retrenchment is the latest evidence of fallout 1 1/2 years after the onset of Asia's financial crisis, which has left that region's airlines reluctant to buy new jets.

"Clearly, the economic slowdown in Asia is driving air traffic down, which impacts our customers' plans and operations," Alan Mulally, Boeing Commercial Airplane Group president, said Tuesday. "Our actions today will match production to market demand to support our customers."

In all, Boeing is reducing its workforce by 48,000 jobs, or a 20 percent drop from the high level of 238,000 reached in June. In July, the company announced it would trim 28,000 jobs.

About half the job cuts will come through retirement, voluntary resignations and other attrition, and the rest through layoffs, Boeing Chairman Philip M. Condit said Wednesday.

Boeing first disclosed the cuts after financial markets closed Tuesday. Investors reacted Wednesday by pushing the company's shares down 16.7 percent, or by $6.75, to $33.62 1/2 in late trading on the New York Stock Exchange. Boeing, a component of the Dow Jones industrial average, was the major cause of a 178-point drop in the average in afternoon trading before the Dow recovered much of its lost ground to end the day down 69 points.

Up to 90 percent of the job cuts will come in the commercial sector and thus will fall heaviest on the Puget Sound region of Washington state, home to all but one of Boeing's cargo and passenger jet assembly plants, Condit said.

Layoffs will occur "across all job categories," he added.

Some planned layoffs could be reversed if Asian economies rebound sooner than expected, but the number could be higher than projected if the malaise spreads to U.S. and European airlines, Condit said.

> ***"Everybody's scared they're going to get laid off. Everybody's worried."***
>
> *— Daniel Smith, a fuel line plumber on 777 jetliners at Boeing's Washington assembly plant*

The size of the job cuts surprised Boeing employees and upset union leaders, who said they were given no warning.

Boeing is "playing with the lives of working-class families throughout the area," said Bill Johnson, head of the Machinist Union District Lodge 751, which represents about 40,000 workers in the Seattle area.

"It came as a surprise although I knew more layoffs were coming," said Daniel Smith, a fuel line plumber on 777 jetliners at Boeing's Everett assembly plant.

"Everybody's scared they're going to get laid off. Everybody's worried. People aren't spending money. Personally, I'm worried I won't be able to pay for my house. I'm worried I may get a layoff notice myself," he said.

Boeing is rolling out 51 planes a month, said spokesman Larry McCracken. He said that will drop to 47 at the end of next year and 38.5 planes a month by the end of 2000.

Boeing is forecasting revenues of $56 billion this year, but just $50 billion in 2000. Net earnings for next year are now expected to be lower than forecasted.

Espy gifts legal, jury rules

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy was acquitted of all counts Wednesday in a corruption case involving sports tickets and travel he accepted from companies that did business with his department.

The acquittal followed a seven-week trial that focused on Espy's attendance at parties and sporting events while he was President Clinton's first agriculture chief in 1993 and 1994.

The jury deliberated nine hours over two days before finding Espy innocent of all 30 counts.

The accusations included three charges — that Espy had violated a 90-year-old federal law banning gifts to meat inspectors — that would have carried a minimum sentence of one year each if he had been convicted.

Espy, 45, pleaded innocent and has always maintained he did nothing wrong by accepting favors from chicken producer Tyson Foods Inc. and other firms.

He and his lawyers hugged when the jury forewoman read the verdict. Family members and supporters in the front rows of the courtroom gasped and began crying.

Independent Counsel Donald Smaltz, who spent more than four years and $17 million prosecuting Espy, his associates and the businesses that gave him gifts, had no visible reaction in the courtroom.

Espy had faced 30 counts covering about $33,000 worth of gifts and entertainment. U.S. District Judge Ricardo Urbina had thrown out an additional eight charges before the jury began its deliberations.

The secretary was forced to resign in 1994 after the White House became concerned with the continuing revelations about his off-hours socializing with farm company executives. He then returned to his home state and now has a law office in Jackson.

Espy was the first Cabinet-level official to face trial since Raymond Donovan, labor secretary under Ronald Reagan. Donovan was acquitted in 1987 on charges involving old business deals.

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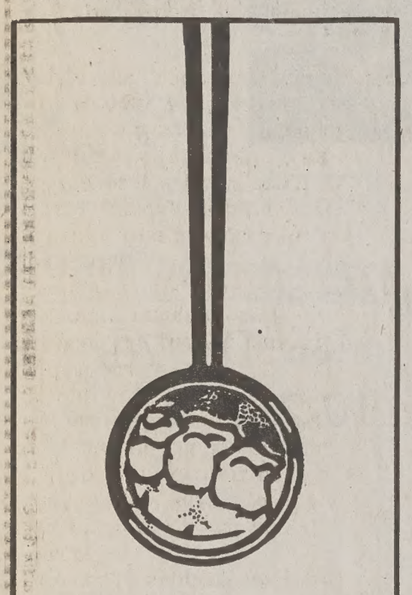

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